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YANKS PREPARING BIG PUSH TO JOIN UP WITH RED ARMY

U.S. 9th Army Moves Eastward After Taking Hanover—Seen Aiming At Brunswick

Domei

BERLIN, April 11.—German forces are at the moment engaged in bitter combat with American troops on both sides of the Harz mountains, and frontline reports said that American tanks are already probing the upper Unstrut valley north of Erfurt as three American armies gathered forces to push eastward on a broad front for a junction with the Red Army at its southern end. The German military spokesman declared that the American advance has been slowed down during the past 24 hours.

Three American armies—the 9th 1st and 3rd yesterday outlined their offensive in a general eastward push while the Canadians' and British were left alone to attend to their offensive northward toward Bremen and Hamburg.

Strong forces of the American 9th army, captured Hanover yesterday after fierce street fighting and moved eastward on both sides of the city contrary to the belief that they might veer to the north to aid the British column pressing up toward Hamburg which is yet not threatened. The Americans appeared to be aiming for Brunswick, midway between Hanover and Magdeberg on the Elbe.

While the American 9th army pressed along the northern edge of the Harz mountains, shockgroups of the American 1st army which captured Gottingen turned to the southeast to advance along the southern fringe of the mountains toward Eisleben by way of Nordhausen.

The left wing of General George Patton's American 3rd army remained active on the upstream of the Unstrut and west of Erfurt, but the bulk of the army yesterday swung to the right wing for a southerly thrust through the Thuringian woods in the direction of Coburg by way of Hildburghausen. This wing appears to be definitely working for west and east junction and a breakthrough to the Czechoslovakian frontier which the left wing of the American 7th army was too weak to carry through alone.

In the north, meanwhile, stiffening German resistance on the Hase and lower reaches of the Ems greatly lessened the threat on Bremen. The left wing of the British 2nd army was completely tied down forcing the bulk of General Niles Dempsey's forces to operate with an open western flank. Hence a great handicap in the British push toward Bremen.

The British bridgehead at Verden on the Weser has in the meantime been strengthened and it is believed that General Dempsey is now aiming to sweep eastward around Bremen and bring about its fall by an encirclement. From Verden to Hamburg, the enemy is only probing with his tanks and it is held unlikely that they will be followed by stronger forces. From an operational viewpoint, therefore, Hamburg is not threatened.

At the southern end of the Western Front, German successes were reported. The town of Crailsheim was recaptured by the Germans yesterday after ding-dong fighting while north of Heilbronn on the Neckar the Germans wiped out the American troops which had crossed the river to the eastern bank.

Simpson's Army Reaches Elbe

Domei

ZURICH, April 11.—Mechanized spearheads of Lieutenant General William Simpson's 9th army tonight reached the Elbe River in the vicinity of Madgdeburg, frontline reports said. This placed Simpson's vanguards about 100 kilometers from Berlin.

Reports said that the Americans reaching the Elbe were spearheads of the 2nd mechanized division under Simpson and the point at which the river was reached was 13 kilometers north of Magdeburg. A high speed highway extending to Berlin runs five kilometers south of the city.

With the Americans having reached the Elbe and with the Soviets pushing an offensive in the Kuestrin' sector, 60 kilometers east of Berlin, the German capital was faced with a grave threat.

Meanwhile, the American 1st army driving along the southern foothills of the Harz mountains, east of Goettingen, smashed through Nordhausen and advanced to the east of the city, apparently aiming to join in the battle for Berlin together with the 9th army.

The right wing of the 1st army hitting eastward in the northern part of Thuringia with the 3rd army today reached Coreda, 25 kilometers northeast of Erfurt and shortened its distance to Leipzig to less than 80 kilometers. South of the zone, the American 3rd army was reported to have taken Coburg. Essen, backbone of the Ruhr, also apparently fell into American hands today.

Applicability Range Of Yalta Declaration Demanded By France

Domei

LISBON, April 10.—Clarification by Washington, London and Moscow of the range of applicability and interpretation of the Yalta declaration was demanded by the Provisional Government of France, it was reported from Washington today. From the French view, the situation in Poland, Rumania and Greece since the Yalta conference showed that the spirit of the Yalta declaration has not been applied to those countries. The Provisional Government of France said that there was a suspicion that there was a silent understanding between the Soviet Union and Britain in regard to the gaining of special interests in these countries.

GERMANS ANNOUNCE FALL OF KOENIGSBERG

Vienna Fighting Enters Final Stage; Reich Defenders Offer Stiff Resistance

Domei

BERLIN, April 11.—The East Prussian capital of Koenigsberg has succumbed to overwhelming Soviet assaults, it was announced here today, and the German garrison of Vienna has been pressed back to the Danube canal. In Koenigsberg as well as in Danzig, remnants of the German defenders have not been annihilated or captured, the announcement said. German formations stationed in Samland northeast of Koenigsberg are still grimly and tenaciously holding out in their positions and continuing to tie down strong Soviet troops.

Violent fighting also continued at the Vistula mouth. Both the access to the naval port of Pillau and access to Putziger Nehrung at the Gulf of Danzig are being barred to the Soviet troops. Heaviest fighting, however, is still going on to the west of this sector with the Soviets trying hard for a breakthrough to the Danzig Gulf from the Vistula bottomland.

At the third gravity center of the fighting on the northern Soviet flank, Soviet attacks have completely ceased in the Courland area. This means that also the sixth Courland battle had been ended without a decision. For weeks, 15 Soviet infantry divisions have attacked incessantly without a successful encirclement. The huge losses suffered by the Soviets indicate far-reaching significance of the German defense successes scored in this sector located far in the rear of the Soviet offensive front.

At all three of these focal points considerable parts of the Red Army forces are still being tied down while Marshal Zhukov is still waiting at the Oder river for their deployment to his front which remains completely unchanged. Only in the south between Ratibor and Breslau violent fighting continues.

This struggle in the Silesian area southeast of Ratibor can be looked upon as an aftermath of Konev's breakthrough attempts at the rough Moravian passage. The main thrust of this Soviet army group is expected to be launched in the region north of the Silesian foothills.

Meanwhile, the Soviet pressure toward the Danube Canal in Vienna indicates the near end of the fight for the Austrian capital. Soviet attacks, south of Vienna, in the meantime, has penetrated the Vienna woods with several groups and crossed the Vienna-St. Polten road. For the time being this fighting activivty may be only of local significance, but further operations are obviously being initiated.

Silesia Drive Seen

Domei

BERLIN, April 11.—Field Marshal General Ferdinand Schoerner, Commander of the German Central Army group on the Eastern Front, in his order of the day warned his troops of a coming offensive in Upper Silesia. His order said that the Soviet 4th army was concentrating in the area of Guben and Forst, and Schoerner had taken measures against its possible commitment by Marshal Konev to open the German Neisse line.

Vienna Battle Raging

Domei

ZURICH, April 11.—Marshal Alexander Tolbukhim's forces were reported today to be in control of both sides of the Danube canal running through Vienna. Frontline reports said that the street fighting for the Austrian capital had entered the final stages and that some Red troops had already driven ahead to the area between the Danube canal and the Danube river.

Fighting was apparently of an extremely bitter nature, with the Germans hitting back at the Soviets from the wooded area around the city with heavy artillery fire and lashing tank thrusts.

A separate force also under Marshal Tolbukhim's command was reported to be pushing for the Wachau river, lying 60 kilometers west of Vienna.

PRAVDA MAKES COMMENT ON SAN FRANCISCO MEET

No Organ of Any Help If Big Powers Do Not Find Common Platform, Soviet Paper Says

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 11.—In a comment on the coming San Francisco Conference, the Soviet newspaper Pravda today said that "it is clear that if the strongest States of the world find a common platform for the protection of peace there will be peace on earth." It stressed, "if this common platform is not found no clause in the constitution of any organization whatever will help."

The Pravda editorial follows: "The San Francisco Conference will take place at the end of this month. The few weeks up to then may mean a whole epoch under the present circumstances. The American armies have crossed the two of the greatest rivers of Germany. The Red Army has crossed the Oder and is continuing its advance into Germany westward. Allied troops have crossed the Rhine and are pressing into Germany from the west to the east

"There are people who try to illuminate every new phenomenon with the light of old historic examples. These people see a new version of the League of Nations in the San Francisco Conference and for this very reason are beginning to play old records on the gramophone to strike up sentimental tunes about the small countries which they allege will have to sing the tune with the great Powers.

"The San Francisco Conference, however, has nothing in common with the League of Nations. This conference does not repeat the past but opens a new chapter in world history.

"Marshal Stalin said the following about the new international organization, 'This organization must not be a repetition of the ill-starred League of Nations. It will be a new fully autnorized world organization having in its command everything necessary to uphold peace and avert new aggression.'

"It is significant that the Conference that precedes the formation of a new international organization will meet in the United States. This is proof of the defeat of the United States isolationism. This isolationism was one of the reasons for the weakness of the League of Nations. The United States is now not only participating in the construction of an international peace organization, but is among the Powers that are convening at the conference.

"Another significant fact is that another organizing and inviting country is the Soviet Union.

"There was a time when some people wanted to organize a world without the strong Soviet State. What is more they wanted to organize the world against the Soviet State. In other words this means that they wanted to organize war. This also was a fatal shortcoming of the League of Nations. The League was based not on realistic conditions, but on its own desires of ambitions.

"The San Francisco Conference is based above all on realistic conditions. Its initiating Powers are the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain.

"Experience of the second world war has proved that weak peoples, defended by nothing but beautiful words and procrastinated treaties, are always the first victims of aggression. Nothing but force permeated by the ideals of democracy can defend these people. Only such force can guarantee freedom and independence of such pople. It was the strength of the Soviet Union that rescued the countries of western Europe.

"It is clear that if the strongest States of the world find a common platform for protection of peace there will be peace on earth. If this common platform is not found, no clause in the Constitution of any organization whatever will help."

Greatest Artillery Duel in Pacific Rages On Okinawa As Fighting in Fiercest Stage

Domei

LISBON, April 10.—The battle of Okinawa entered its most fierce stage today. The U.S. 24th Army Corps in the southwestern section have been completely checked by fierce Japanese gunfire. AP reports from the front say that the exchange of heavy artillery fire in this section can be regarded as the greatest artillery battle in the Pacific war theater. The Japanese Forces in mountains north of Naha are raining a "murderous hail of iron and steel" on the American forces, making it impossible to effect a speedy breakthrough into this defense line.

John Raynard, Reuter correspondent, in his report on the war situation today declared:

"The artillery forces of the opposing forces are exchanging fierce fire, without a letup even at night. In only five minutes 263 shells were poured on to the front line of the Seventh Division, and for two hours the Japanese concentrated trench mortar and fieldgun fire on the front positions of a certain U.S. regiment. This barrage was followed by two Japanese attacks.

"The heavy rain that continued for 18 hours has turned roads into marshes of red soil, and only very slow progress can be expected unless the engineering corps can rectify matters."

Prelude to Big Offensive

The majority of the anti-Axis war commentators are expressing the opinion that the current operations of the American forces in the Okinawa area are the prelude to the launching of truly largescale offensive moves against Japan, says Yomiuri-Hochi's special correspondent K. Kitamura, at Stockholm. His report follows:

The first drive will be directed at the Tokyo area from the Marianas via Yiojima, and the second spearhead will be aimed at Kyushu from the Philippines by way of the Okinawa Islands, according to the anti-Axis commentators.

A radio broadcast from New York on Monday stressed the vital importance of the Okinawa operations and said, "The future course of the Pacific operations depends entirely on the way the Okinawa situation turns out." The report further states that Japan will be faced with a great threat should the American forces succeed in establishing air bases on the Okinawas. "The American forces are now trying to establish a series of bases from which to launch positive air and sea operations against Japan Proper, and the key to the success or failure of their plans lies in the outcome of the Okinawa fighting," says the report.

The New York correspondent of the Svenska Dagbladet, Swedish daily, says, "The Okinawas are most important in that they are playing the role of cutting the Americans off from the Asiatic Continent and Chosen." The main Okinawa island is only 650 kilometers from Kyushu and is in a position to command the routes between Japan, Chosen, and Taiwan.

Should the American forces gain control of the Okinawa Islands, Japan's naval and air bases and all of her industrial areas, will be brought within striking distance of American medium-sized bombers. American naval operations would be brought close to Japan if they succeed in employing the Okinawas as a base from which to support the operations of their fleet from the air, and the Japanese ports at Kure, Nagasaki, Sasebo and Kobe would be within striking distance.

The main Okinawa island is large enough to land a considerably powerful land force which might be employed in an invasion of Japan Proper. The progress of the American Pacific operations is adding an increasingly optimistic touch to anti-Axis public opinion; but the American military authorities are issuing repeated warnings against the entertaining of any idea that American control of the Okinawas would immediately clear the path toward an invasion of Japan Proper.

In this connection, the Illustrated London News says, "It is problematical whether the current operations presage the approach of American invasion operations. Whether the American forces land on Japan or on the China Continent they will require a far greater force than they have been employing so far. So far the Americans have not used more than 12 divisions in their operations against the Pacific islands. It is impossible that future operations can be carried out with such a small force of men. The strength of the American forces in the entire Pacific area cannot even be compared to that of the Japanese Forces. Studying the matter even from this angle alone, we see that landing operations against either Japan or China would be extremely difficult."

Admiral Ernest Joseph King, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations, warns against the optimism in the United States, saying, "With the carrying of the war theater into the Okinawa area, the resistance of the Japanese has become increasingly powerful. Even if our operations on Okinawa Island progress smoothly, we must expect them to take much more time and exact far greater sacrifices than on Yiojima, and the plans for our next moves will be delayed considerably. Japan's great armed strength is still intact in Japan and in China, and we must be prepared for a large-scale Japanese counteroffensive."

SOVIETS HELD PLANNING NEW POLISH GOVERNMENT

Speculation Arises From Missing of Witos, 70-Year-Old Former Premier

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—The Polish exiled Government said today that Wincenty Witos, 70-year-old former Premier, left his home in Krakow province with Soviet agents for an unannounced destination 12 days ago and had not been reported since, and speculations were raised that the Soviets might be planning to sponsor independently a new Polish coalition Government at Warsaw, according to a London dispatch.

The Polish report said that Witos had been taken from his home by four Soviet agents who arrived at Witos' house in Wierzchoslawich in the province of Krakow on March 31, and after a short conversation Witos left with them for an unknown destination. Since that time there has been no news at all of his whereabouts.

Last Friday, the Polish Government in London similiarly issued a communique stating that members of the Polish underground Government, commander of the now dissolved Home Army and leaders of the Polish political parties on mission to Russia were missing.

A Reuter's diplomatic correspondent, meanwhile, today said that Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, British Ambassador in Moscow, so far has been unable to throw any light on the question of the 15 Polish underground leaders who according to the Polish Government in London disappeared after presenting themselves on March 27 and 28 at the headquarters of General Ivanoy representing the Soviet High Command of the 1st White Ruthenian front.

It would appear, the correspondent said, that if political discussions are taking place with these Polish leaders under Soviet auspices in Moscow or elsewhere, British and American members of the commission of three charged with preparation of such discussions have not yet been informed.

LIEUT. GENERAL YASUI NAMED STATE MINISTER

Recommended by Anami; Investiture Ceremony Is Held At Palace

Lieutenant General Toji Yasui, who is on the reserve list, was appointed a State Minister in the Suzuki Cabinet on Wednesday afternoon, the Board of Information announced the same day.

For strengthening the Cabinet and, particularly, for maintaining a very close relation with all circles, Prime Minister Admiral Baron Kantaro Suzuki had requested War Minister General Korechika Anami to recommend a suitable person as a State Minister.

As Lieutenant General Yasui was recommended as the proper person for the post, the Prime Minister asked the Lieutenant General to meet him at his official residence at 3 p.m. on Wednesday. Lieutenant General Yasui consented to join the Cabinet, and the investiture ceremony was held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the Imperial Palace.

Lieutenant General Yasui hails from Toyama Prefecture, and is 60 years old. Graduating with honors from the Military Academy, he held such important positions as Commander of the Second Infantry Regiment of the Imperial Guards, Commander of the 29th Infantry Brigade, Chief of Staff of the Tokyo Defense Force, and Commander of the Second Division.

At the time of the February 26 incident, he was Chief of Staff of the Tokyo Defense Force and undertook the difficult task of maintaining peace and order in the capital. Later, having been placed on the reserve list, he became head of the Tokyo Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Corps. In the Military Academy he was the classmate of War Minister Anami, and thus he has a very close and intimate relationship with the War Minister,

JAPANESE TAKE LAOHOKOU, VITAL BASE IN NORTH HUPEI

City Captured April 8 Following Fall of U.S. Airfield In Vicinity

Domei

NANKING, April 11.—The Japanese Forces that opened up an offensive against the main enemy units of the Fifth War Zone in the neighborhood of Laohokou on March 22, advanced to and occupied Laohokou Airfield, the advance base of the U.S. air forces in China, on March 27. Continuing their drive the Japanese on April 8 completely occupied Laohokou city, where the headquarters of the enemy forces in the Fifth War Zone are located.

At 3 p.m. on April 11, the Japanese Expeditionary Army in China issued the following announcement:

"Our Units in the North China area occupied Laohokou.

"Our Units in the Central China area, acting in concert with the activity of the above units, are now engaged in operations in the Hansui district."

Other Towns Captured

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

HUPEI FRONT BASE, April 11.—Various units of the Japanese Forces in Central China that suddenly went into action on the night of March 21 from the left bank of the Hanshui River, entered Wuanjen early on the morning of March 25, after breaking through the enemy's first-line defenses in the mountains south of the city.

Meanwhile, other Japanese Units continued their advance toward Nanchang 15 kilometers northwest of Wuanjen, hotly chasing the fleeing enemy. After inflicting heavy losses on the enemy at the height south of Nanchang, they completely occupied the town on the afternoon of March 26.

Then at midnight, March 28, our Forces advanced toward Jangyang, another important point on the shore of the Hansui River, and occupied it completely at dusk of March 29. Further pursuing the fleeing enemy, our Units crossed the Jangho River, and on March 30 occupied Fanchengchin.

Pursue Fleeing Enemy

By N. NAKANO

Of the Military Press Corps

LAOHOKOU, April 11.—Crack Japanese Units operating against Laohokou opened up a general attack on April 7 from Peikwan, Tungkwan, and Nankwan. On April 8, the Japanese drove a wedge into a corner of Laohokou, and a part of our vanguards succeeded in breaking into the town at 2 p.m. the same day. Other Japanese Forces stormed into the town and fierce street fighting ensued at various points. The town was completely occupied at 9 p.m. April 8.

Our Units, waiting for an opportunity for action on the Nankwan Road, are pursuing the enemy forces fleeing along the left bank of the Hansui River.

Vital Trade Center

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL FRONT, April 11.—Laohokou is located on the Hanshui River, in the northern part of Hupei Province. It is an important commercial and river transportation center with a population of about 50,000.

Here are brought the products of Shensi, Kansu, Szechwan and Kiangnan provinces as land and river transportation routes run toward this area from all direction.

Lately, Laohokou was made the base of the United States air forces in China, and a considerable number of American officers and soldiers have been stationed there. It is possible for planes to leave and land at this base even at night.

Spain Decides Policy

Domei

MADRID, April 11.—Measures against the Japanese have been approved by the political Junta, supreme governing body of the Falange, it was announced today without disclosure of details.

Ten British Airplanes From Task Force Raid Sabang and Kota Raja

Domei

SOUTHERN FRONT BASE, April 12.—A British task force approached the northern area of Sumatra about 9 a.m. yesterday and attacked Sabang Island and Kota Raja with about 10 carrier borne planes. However, in repulsing the enemy, Japanese Air Units damaged two of the raiding planes without suffering any losses themselves.

KING OF LUANG-PRABANG DECLARES INDEPENDENCE

Severance of Ties With France Effected April 8 at Palace Ceremony

Domei

HANOI, April 10.—Annam and Cambodia, French Indo-China, declared their independence on the heels of the new measures taken by the Japanese Army in Indo-China recently, and now the Kingdom of Luang-Prabang has followed suit by declaring herself an independent state on the morning of April 8. At 7 a.m. that day, King Sisavang Vong declared the independence of Luang-Prabang at a ceremony held at his palace.

King Sisavang Vong is 60 years of age He studied for about one year at the Colonial Academy in Paris from 1900, returned to his country in 1904, and was installed as King of Luang-Prabang in April 1904.

Cambodia Forges Ahead

By S. SUGANO and M. MATSUDA

Of the Military Press Corps

PHNOM PENH, April 11.—Cambodia is already striding forth toward the construction of Greater East Asia as a member of the Co-Prosperity Region although but a month has passed since she declared independence. Two new Cabinet members have been installed and the French Government officials have been replaced by Cambodians, to the joy of the people.

As a result, all traces of French influence are being removed and an enlightened atmosphere, such as was unheard of during French oppression, pervades the populace. Cambodia has risen anew as a truly East Asiatic State in politics, economy, and culture.

Every subject of Cambodia is sworn to offer full cooperation to Japan, has gained a full understanding of the objectives of the War of Greater East Asia, and is determined to fight through until victory is attained.

All the French governors of the 13 provinces and one city district have been removed and native officials installed in their place.

Rations of salt, sugar, matches, soap, cotton fabrics and other such commodities, formerly rationed only among the French, are now being rationed evenly among all Cambodians.

The Cambodian, Annamese and Chinese language newspapers, issued since the declaration of independence, have done much to put at ease the minds of the people, while libraries, museums and Buddhist research institutes have been opened. Japan's open-handedness has impressed the people as proved by the good attendance at the Japanese-language schools. At Pnompen, the capital city, seven teachers are teaching three shifts daily, as so many eager applicants have appeared. A positive and concrete atmosphere of full cooperation with Japan is sweeping the whole State.

BOUGAINVILLE FIGHT RAGES

Japanese Continue to Attack Positions of Aussie Forces

Domei

LISBON, April 10.—Fierce fighting continues today between the Japanese and Australian forces in the southern part of Bougainville island in the Solomons according to reports from Melbourne.

The Japanese are making smashing attacks on the Australian positions at Holinn and in the Soraken Peninsula in the north.

Meanwhile, the Japanese on the eastern shore of the Briata River are repeating determined attacks against the rear of the Australian positions.

Belgo-Turk Pact Signed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 11.—The Ankara radio announced the conclusion of a commercial agreement between Belgium and Turkey yesterday following long negotiations. It was also announced that the Belgian Minister to Turkey who had been absent for some time would take up his duties shortly.

OKINAWA INVADERS HIT BY NIPPON SHOCK ACTION

Japanese Lash Out at Yanks Along Entire Front; Foil Enemy Counterdrives

Imperial Japanese Forces on the main Okinawa island launched vigorous shock attacks along the entire length of the front on the night of April 10, inflicting heavy blows on the U.S. invaders at every point. Detailed information on the battle results is not yet available.

Strongly reinforced and backed by tanks and armored cars, the enemy forces carried out stubborn assaults against the main Japanese positions on the following morning, but the Japanese are frustrating the enemy at every point.

In the meantime Japanese Units in bleeding operations are now inflicting big losses on the enemy troops, numbering about 5,000, that landed in the Nago Bay area under the protection of 150 tanks at dusk of April 7. Up to the present, the Japanese have blown up 35 enemy tanks, two armored cars, five trucks and one vehicle besides blasting seven fuel, ammunition, and provision dumps. Heavy casualties were also inflicted upon the invasion troops.

On April 3, the enemy began to mass a small number of aircraft at the north and central airfields on the main Okinawa island, which had fallen into the hands of the invaders. But in face of fierce shelling by artillery from the main Japanese positions, the activity of enemy planes from these bases is restricted.

Meanwhile, Japanese infantry and artillery units on Tsugatajima, in close cooperation, are continuing their counterattacking operations against about two battalions of enemy troops, who are suffering heavy losses.

Bombardment Continues

Domei

CERTAIN BASE IN CENTRAL PACIFIC, April, 11.—The number of enemy aircraft which daily attack Japanese bases in the Southwestern Islands area has greatly decreased of late, two hundred and ten appearing yesterday.

Meanwhile, the number of enemy surface craft operating in the waters around the main Okinawa island has also decreased. However, the enemy bombardment against the southern sector of the main island from small groups of vessels is continuing.

On the other hand, Japanese Ground Units on the island continued their operations against the enemy yesterday.

Increased activities of enemy small vessels have become noticeable in Nakagusuku Bay.

30 Bombers Over Taiwan

Domei

TAIHOKU, April 11.—Nearly 30 enemy bombers and a number of other planes, coming from a base in the Philippine Islands, attacked various places in Taiwan this afternoon.

The enemy paid attention chiefly to the military establishments and cities, towns and villages in the Takao and Taichu areas.

'SUPER FORTRESSES' RAID WESTERN AREA OF TOKYO

Fukushima Also Hit; 120 B-29's Appear— Factory Zones Attacked

After circling for about two hours over the waters south of Izu, the main strength of about 120 B-29 bombers based in the Marianas, divided into three echelon formations, raided the western area of Tokyo, principally bombing factory centers for about one hour from shortly after 10 a.m. on Thursday.

At 11:20 a.m a part of the enemy air formations made a northward flight along the east coast of the mainland and attacked Fukushima Prefecture after passing over Onohama. After bombing factory centers in the vicinity of Koriyama the enemy bombers fled southward.

Before and after the large-scale raid, eight B-29's singly flew over the areas under the control of the Eastern, East Sea, Central and Western Army districts. One of the raiders dropped bombs in Gifu at 6 a.m. while another unloaded explosives over the Shizuoka and Shimoda areas at 9:30 a.m.

Japanese Anti-Air Raid Forces fiercely counterattacked the enemy raiders at every point. The battle results and the damage caused by the raid are now under investigation.

CONNALLY URGES YANKS GIVEN FULL POWER AT S.F.

Wants Delegates to Act in All Emergency Cases Without Consent of Congress

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—Senator Tom Connally, Texas Democrat, who is the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, today declared that the United States representative on the proposed United Nations Council at San Francisco should have authority to vote "without the consent of Congress," according to a Washington dispatch. Connally spoke at a luncheon of the International Rotary Club.

"It is absolutely essential that our representative have power to act in all cases of emergency," said Connally, who is a delegate to the United Nations Conference on International Organization at San Francisco this month.

"We have learned that aggressor Powers can and do act promptly and unless the Council is able to act promptly there would be little use in acting at all."

He also declared that the United States must be a member on the Council to preserve peace. Without our membership, it will fail and he added that the Soviet Union, Britain and Chungking must also be on the Council. "The United Nations have fought wars together and they must establish peace and peace machinery together," he stated.

U.S. Faces Difficulties

Domei

BERLIN, April 10.—Difficulty has arisen in the selection of the American delegation to the United Nations Conference on International Organization at San Francisco this month, according to the Sunday Times' special reporter.

The line-up as planned by President Roosevelt has met a serious snag, with the main selectees refusing to take part. Cordell Hull, former U.S. Secretary of State, on whom Roosevelt had counted on most, will not be able to attend due to "illness"; Commander Harold Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota, also on whom the President had counted due to the latter's strong support of international cooperation, has openly refused participation and has returned to his post as naval captain in the Pacific; while Republican Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan has formulated a counter program and, therefore, cannot be depended upon, writes the reporter.

Another problem, of no direct concern to the two political parties in the United States but of great interest to two departments, points out the reporter, is that of international control of colonies. It seems that the Navy Department is in favor of such a control, while the State Department desires a postponement of "this dangerous subject."

It is said that British diplomats in Washington are quite openly declaring that the American Government wanted to use the pretense of international control, not only to obtain control of numerous mandated territories but also to separate Britain from her West Indies colonies and even from India and Palestine.

Dominions' Stand Clarified

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, April 11.—A Reuter's correspondent today predicted that at the San Francisco conference it is likely that the Dominions will strongly favor a modification of what appears to them an unchallenged power of the security council as proposed by the Dumbarton Oaks Conference and later fortified by the "Big Three Talks" at Yalta.

During the London conference of the Dominions delegates, he said, Australia and New Zealand pressed the need for a wider distribution of authority and with Canada urging recognition of "middle Powers" like herself, Australia, Brazil and the Netherlands by allotting them some measure of representation on the security council, it is almost certain that amendments from these dominions representing their viewpoints will be submitted at San Francisco.

Another Reuter's correspondent disclosed that India's attitude to Canada's proposals for a recognized status for the "middle Powers" in postwar security plans which have been put forward during the Commonwealth talks in London has been markedly sympathetic.

Pre-S. F. Meeting Planned

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—A possibility that the major Allied countries may meet in Washington prior to the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco to discuss the issue of trusteeship of territories to be taken from the Axis nations was disclosed yesterday by Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, according to a Washington dispatch.

U.S. Navy Opposes Army Plan to Unite Nation's Air Forces

Domei

LISBON, April 10.—The plan for amalgamating the U.S. War and Navy Departments, which is said to have been originally proposed by War Secretary Henry Stimson, mainly to unite the army and navy air forces under one system of command, is being strongly opposed by the Navy Department. Thus, there is no prospect of the said proposal being materialized, says a Washington report.

JURISTS PICK THE HAGUE AS INTERNATIONAL COURT

Decision Made in Washington; Legal Experts Decide to Revise Old Statute

Domei

LISBON, April 11.—An anti-Axis committee of legal experts now sitting in Washington agreed yesterday to select The Hague as the seat of the new Court of International Justice, says a Washington report. Since the First Peace Conference of 1899, The Hague has always been associated with pacific solution of the court of international arbitration or justice.

The committee of international jurists decided to revise the old statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice rather than draft a new statute. At its meeting yesterday, the committee discussed the first 22 articles of the old statute, and submitted the provisions concerning the election of judges to a sub-committee for examination.

The articles of minor importance have already been fixed by the committee, and the report of the subcommitte will be presented to the United Nations Conference on International Organizations at San Francisco on April 25. The committee of legal experts now comprises representatives of 42 countries including the Commonwealth of the Philippines, Norway, Yugoslavia and Luxemburg.

Piles Lauds Wong

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—Dr. Wong, Chungking delegate to the United Nations Conference on International Organizations at San Francisco was among the jurists from 30 countries who attended the opening session of the International Judicial Conference which opened in the auditorium of the Labor Department in Washington, says a Washington report relayed to Chungking.

It said that Sir Michael Piles, New Zealand's Chief Justice, who was also present paid a special tribute to Dr. Wong in the course of his speech.

The opening session lasted 20 minutes and Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, who formally opened the meeting stressed confidence that the conference will succeed, thus contributing to the San Francisco parley.

WANT EQUAL VOTING RIGHTS

Australia, New Zealand, India Support Canada at Dominions Meet

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 11. — The storm provoked by the Canadian representative to the British Dominions' Conference who, in indignation over the dictatorship of the Big Powers in the international world security machinery, demanded that secondary countries should have equal voting powers as the great powers has caused Australia, New Zealand and India who maintain the same status as Canada to support Canada in her demand for rights as secondary powers, according to a London dispatch.

Relative to this, the Indian representative to the forthcoming conference stated to a Reuter correspondent today as follows:

"India's contribution, both military and industrial, to the present war has been just as great as that of any of the great powers. Not only is India not to be beaten by Chungking but from the point of her war strength and her future national strength it may be said that India is well on her way to becoming a great power. It is only natural that India as a country equal to the great powers should be granted equal voting rights."

The decision of the British Dominions Conference will be brought up at the San Francisco Conference but the unanimous opposition of the various self-governing dominions may be taken to mean that the British Dominions Conference will end in complete failure.

Against Lend-Lease Extension

Domei

LISBON, April 10.—A bill opposing the continuation of the postwar Lend-Lease deliveries was introduced today in Congress by Senator Robert A. Taft, Ohio Republican, who said that the present Lend-Lease legislation has a "hole" enabling President Roosevelt and his administration to grant to foreign states postwar loans amounting to billions of dollars against the explicit wish of Congress, according to a Washington report.

U.S. POLITICAL PATTERN CHANGING, EVENTS SHOW

Impetus for Reform Originates In Industrial East, Is View Of Commentator

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—Marquis Childs, American news commentator, writing in today's Washington Post said that the political pattern of America is changing. It is a change which began long ago with the industrial revolution, he said, but it took recent events to make it unmistakably clear.

Once the impetus for reform came from the farm belt. Today it originates in the industrial east, Childs said.

"Once the citadel of political radicalism and economic liberalism was in the rural areas," Childs said, "Farm representatives put forth most extreme doctrines. From the agricultural hinterlands came such innovations as initiative, referendum and recall."

Childs reflected that the "predominant voices for liberalism and progressive change came from the farm belt, and particularly from the middle west. For a generation in American public life, principal advocates of reform were George W. Norris of Nebraska, Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin and William Jennings Bryan who also came out of Nebraska as well as Olson of Minnesota—all were from the rural west, he said.

"Even the south contributed to the ferment, but which has come to a full turn," he added. "Senators and Representatives from the south and middle west are pillars of conservatism. They are most outspoken foes of the New Deal."

Childs' article observed that it is "from the industrial cities of the north that new advocates of reforms are now coming."

"Under the influence of organized labor they are turning against anything that resembles 'regimentation' even in war time," he said. "That was undoubtedly one of the chief reasons for the defeat last week of the administration's manpower bill.

"The Senate vote on the appointment of Henry Wallace to be Secretary of Commerce showed how fully the political wheel has come around. Republicans from the middle west voted overwhelmingly against Wallace. They professed to be afraid of his 'visionary' ideas. At the same time large sections of the New England Republicans voted to give Wallace a chance to test his vision in action."

Childs then described the complete turn of policy in the industrial east. "New England was once the center of political conservatism," he said. "Yet of the given Republicans from that region in the Senate, five voted for Wallace. These included Aiken of Vermont, Brewster of Maine, Hart of Connecticut, Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Tobey of New Hampshire.

"It is Senator Aiken from Vermont, one of the two states which went Republican in 1936, who appears most likely to be the successor to the late George Norris as leader of progressivism in the Senate.

"Once the impetus for reform came from the farm belt. Today, it originates in the industrial east."

OPA IN AMERICA ASSAILED

Handling of Whole Meat Situation Rapped By Wheeler

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—Senator Burton Wheeler, Montana Democrat, levelled a new barrage of criticism against the OPA (Office of Price Administration) today at a Senate food investigation hearings as sentiment mounted in the Agriculture Committee for a formal rebuke of the OPA on its handling of the whole meat situation, according to a Washington dispatch.

Shaking his finger at Thomas Emerson, Deputy OPA administrator in charge of enforcement, Wheeler declared that OPA enforcement officers had been called off when a trap was set two years ago for a gang of black market meat operators.

Describing Emerson as an "inexperienced boy," the Montanan said, "If they don't get somebody else down there in charge of enforcement they might as well close up the OPA."

STRIKE IN U.S. CONTINUES

5,000 Employes of Kelsey Hayes Company Remain Idle

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—A strike of 5,000 employes in three plants of the Kelsey Hayes Wheel Company continued today, according to a Detroit dispatch. About 1,000 employes of the Plymouth, Michigan, gun plant yesterday joined 4,000 workers in the military and McGraw plants already on strike protesting the discharge of several minor officials of the United Automobile Workers.

Through lack of parts supplied by the Kelsey Hayes, Company, the report added, the Cadillac division of the General Motors Corporation was forced to send 650 workers home. Also some 110 inspectors at the Packard Motor Car Company and 4,000 other workers laid off during the inspectors' absence. At a regional War Labor Board show-cause hearing yesterday, a company spokesman said the company had sent 88 inspectors home for refusing to inspect two motors at one time whereas previously they only inspected one.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

April 11

Our temporarily lost area between the Drave and the Danube was recaptured and the garrison of Vienna was pressed back after heavy fighting to the Danube Canal. In the Danube-March corner, strong attacks were intercepted by our troops. North of the White Carpathians the Soviets pressed northward with the gravity center at Helic and Trentschen but they were repelled. Between the Little Tatra and the Pomeranian Bay fighting continued southeast of Ratibor. The defenders of Breslau repulsed strong attacks against the southern and western front of the fortress while the enemy dents at the St. Bernhard cemetery and west of the Manfred von Richthofen Place were cut off.

At Danzig Bay our troops prevented the enemy from penetrating the Putziger Nehrung while in the western Vistula depression heavy battle is raging for Gottswalde. In his attacks against the Samland front the enemy lost 20 tanks yesterday. In aerial combats 43 enemy planes were shot down over the Eastern Front during the last 48 hours.

In Holland fighting was reported for Deventer and at Meppel. In northwestern Germany our troops threw back the British forces which had advanced toward Osnabrueck and Bersenbrueck, and our troops held their positions against renewed enemy breakthrough attempts. Although the enemy was repelled on the lower Weser and at the Aller with the loss of numerous tanks, Hanover was lost after bitter street fighting and the enemy tank formations are thrusting forward farther toward the east on both sides of the city. American tank groups, attacking eastward from Hameln-Hildesheim are engaged in fighting with our forces at the northwestern spurs of the Harz.

The defensive battle in the Ruhr district and in the front bend from the mouth of the Sieg up to the Moehne dam are increasing in intensity. The enemy attacking on a wide front, pressed back our troops from Wanne-Eickel and Gelsenkirchen to the northern fringe of Bochum and Essen where bitter fighting continues and the enemy attempts at crossing the Ruhr at Steele were repulsed. Between Siegburg and Olpe as well as farther northwestward our formations are opposing the Americans attacking from the south and east.

North of the Thuringian forest the enemy reopened his attacks in the course of which heavy fighting ensued west of Erfurt. Between the Thuringian forest and the Main, strong enemy tank and infantry formations pressed further toward the southeast. At Schweinfurt our troops continued their resistance against strong enemy pressure while east of Wuerzburg and north of Uffenheim also the enemy failed to obtain major gains of ground. In bitter fighting Crailsheim changed hands several times and eventually remained in our hands. An enemy group which had broken out northwestward was caught in the flank and suffered heavy losses. Between the Neckar and Rhine, southwest of Karlsruhe, there was heavy fighting without the frontline undergoing changes worth mentioning.

At the fronts in the western Alps numerous reconnoitering thrusts by De Gaullist troops were repelled by the garrisons of our bases.

In Italy, the British 8th Army continues its attacks southwest of Lake Comacchio on a wider front. Making use of his material superiority the enemy pressed back our main fighting line in the Lugo-Alfonsine sector. At the Ligurian coast, however, all enemy attacks were arrested by our defensive fire.

Central Germany was the objective of attacks by Anglo-American bomber formations day and night. Leipzig and Plauen were hit particularly badly. In the Reich capital also there was loss of lives and damage to buildings. According to available reports, the enemy lost 40 machines most of them four-engined bombers.

U.S. RESUMES RELATIONS

Ties With Argentina Officially Announced by Stettinius

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 10.—The United States resumed diplomatic relations with Argentina at noon today, ending 13 months of non recognition of that Government, the State Department officially announced, according to a Washington dispatch.

Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, said that 19 other American Republics which attended the recent Pan-American Foreign Ministers' Conference in Mexico City have unanimously resumed what he called "normal diplomatic relations with Argentina" after consultations with each other.

Although Argentina has declared war against Germany and Japan, she is not yet a member of the United Nations, Washington diplomatic circles stated today, and consequently she has not been invited to the United Nations Conference on International Organizations in San Francisco this month.

Meanwhile, Washington is wondering whether the Soviet Union will agree to invite Argentina to the San Francisco conference. They state that Moscow will hardly consent since the United States has rejected the Soviet demand to invite the Warsaw Polish Provisional Government of National Unity to the same conference.

'LIBERATED COUNTRIES' IN EUROPE DISAPPOINTED

Food and Clothing Relief Will Be Held Up, Roosevelt Says in Report

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—The hopes of Europe's "liberated countries" for quick relief in the form of food and clothing and medical supplies were given a jolt today as President Roosevelt asked them to wait a little longer, according to a Washington dispatch.

The UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) indicated in a report submitted by President Roosevelt to Congress today that this aid probably would be held up until the German pockets of resistance were wiped out.

In a letter to Congress accompanying the report, Roosevelt said that "rapidly as possible" the UNRRA is furnishing emergency and essential aid and promised the people of the devastated lands that full-scale assistance would be given "once the armed forces ease up in their demands" for supplies and transportation.

The UNRRA disclosed that of the $800,000,000 authorized for relief by the United States, only $6,000,000 has been spent.

SET FOR SERVICE ABROAD

All Replaceable Soldiers in U.S. to Be Sent Overseas

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—Henry Stimson, U.S. Secretary of War, in a communication made public today by Representative George Mahon, Democrat of Texas, said that "every able-bodied soldier in the United States who had not been placed in service overseas is earmarked to go abroad just as fast as he can be replaced by a returning veteran," according to a Washington dispatch.

This decision was prompted by the suggestion by Mahon that the "bottom of the barrel should be scraped" of soldiers still in this country before switching combat units from the European theater to the Pacific war fronts. Stimson wrote in part as follows:

"According to February figures there were approximately 8,050,000 men in the army, 5,150,000 of whom were overseas.

"Everyone of these soldiers except those who have already seen overseas service or who are physically disqualified is earmarked for foreign service as soon as he can be replaced by a limited serviceman returning from overseas."

WEDEMEYER IN CHUNGKING

Says Plans for Defeating Japan Discussed in Washington

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11. — Lieutenant General Albert Wedemeyer, Commander of the U.S. Forces in China, returned to Chungking on Tuesday after a prolonged stay in Washington where he conferred with President Roosevelt, General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff Admiral Ernst J. King, Commander-in-chief of the U.S. Navy and Chief of Naval Operations; Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet; and other high Government officials, according to a Chungking report.

En route to and returning from the United States, Wedemeyer conferred with General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Southwestern Pacific, in the Philippines.

The report said that the purpose of the conferences was to facilitate the coordination of air and ground forces within the China theater of war.

Upon his return to Chungking, Wedemeyer said: "I cannot reveal the exact nature of the conferences in which I participated but it can be said that plans for the defeat of Japan were thoroughly reviewed."

U.S. Coal Strike Ends

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—The second soft coal strike in the United States was averted as John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, signed a new contract with mine operators today, according to a Washington report. The agreement calls for a basic wage of $10 a day.

Latin-American Quota

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 11.—The Latin-American countries must fill up a quota of 1,000,000 men to fight against the Axis nations, according to a Buenos Aires report.

Facts Worth Noting

Salvador

Gen. Castaneda Castro—President
Ariesta Tez—Foreign Minister
Emilio Ponce—Home Minister
Adolfo Perez—Education Minister
Salvador Benatoleyo—National Defense Minister
Hector Escobar—Finance Minister
Hector D. Castro—Ambassador to U.S.

ARABS UNITING AT MEETING

Will Consult Each State at S.F., Says Syrian Premier

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, April 11. — At a press reception on the eve of his departure for San Francisco, Syrian Prime Minister Fayez El Khoury said that the five Arab states will form a common front and constitute an appreciable force at the conference, according to a Damascus dispatch.

Stressing that the Arab states will consult together on all matters of local interest, the Syrian Prime Minister stressed the importance of the proposed measures to promote international solidarity and the protection of the rights of small nations.

BRITISH TORIES, LABORITES REACH TEMPORARY TRUCE

Step Taken to Prevent Collapse Of Coalition Setup Until Europe War Ends

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 11.—Because of developments arising from the recent bombshell speech of Ernest Bevin, British Minister of Labor, who blasted the Tories and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, observers are of the opinion that there would be a political upheaval in Britain which will place the Government in an awkward position.

Subsequently, Churchill conferred with the leaders of the Conservative and Labor Parties. The upshot of the discussion was the decision that there should be a continuance of the political truce between the two parties at least for the present.

Reuter's political correspondent, in his report today said:

"The wrangle among the leaders of the Conservative and Labor Parties since the weekend came to a temporary end with the agreement reached by them under which they were to refrain from any action that might hasten the collapse of the Coalition Cabinet until the European War has been settled for once.

Because of the agreement it is considered highly likely that the parties which are included in the Churchill Government will be careful not to act blindly at least for the next few weeks.

The irony of the situation which found Britain in a political crisis over the weekend is that the general election has been put off instead of being speeded up.

BANK OF JAPAN REFORMED

Business Simplified, Position Strengthened by Changes

The Bank of Japan carried out on April 10 a reform of its internal structure, with the approval of the Finance Ministry, in order to meet the requirements of the situation by simplifying its business and strengthening its position.

The internal divisions of the Bank now comprise eight bureaus in addition to the Secretariat, the Personnel Department, the General Affairs Department, and the Research Department. The eight bureaus are the Note Issue Bureau, the Business Bureau, the National Treasury Bureau the National Debt Bureau, the External Affairs Bureau, the Fund Raising Bureau, the Archives Bureau, and the Control Bureau. The number of bureaus has been reduced from eleven to eight through the reform.

The General Affairs Department, established as an important feature of the reform, will act as the planning department over the whole field of the Bank's activities, while the Control Bureau, also established as part of the reform, will serve as the agency for the control of financial institutions. Through its establishment, the business of the National Financial Control Association has been virtually absorbed by the Bank of Japan, a measure which will ensure the smooth functioning of financial control.

The surplus personnel after the reform will be transferred to the local branches of the Bank, in order to strengthen those establishments.

New Japan Coal Head

With the sudden death of Shiro Watanabe, president of the Japan Coal Company, the Munitions Ministry has appointed Yasukichi Kawakatsu, director of the same company and head business manager, to the presidency. Also Shinsui Kunisaki, director and manager of business and general affairs, has been appointed vice-president, it was announced on Tuesday.

Rites For Air Raid Victims

The Tokyo Buddhists Federation will conduct memorial services for unindentified air raid victims of the March 10 raid, buried in Sumida Park and 47 other places in the metropolis on Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also from 10 a.m. on the same day, a service will be conducted at the Asakusa Temple for raid victims of Asakusa-ku with representatives from the metropolis, Metropolitan Police and the Eastern District Army attending.

STUDY OF PLANT LIFE UNDERWATER REVIEWED

Science of Limnology Aids Fishery and Irrigation Enterprises, Says Thieneman

(Continued From Tuesday)

On the whole, the typical oligotrophic lake is at a stage of equilibrium; almost the entire mass of substances contained in the bodies of organisms is dissolved again and returned to the water. The entire circulation of nutrition represents a more or less completely reversible process. In other words, we find a mutual effect of all the members of the system of the lake upon each other, the result of which is the maintenance of the system's equilibrium. This makes the lake an entity, a unity of life of a higher order.

The Lowland Lake

Now let us turn to the eutrophic (from the Greek eu—well, easy) lake as represented, for example, by the type of large lakes in the North German plains. Bedded in the rich diluvial deposits of the low plains, it possesses a wealth of plant nutrients and consequently also of plankton. The result is turbid water of a green to yellow or brownish-green color and a limitation of vegetable life to the surface levels. The lake has been able to eat deeply into its soft banks, so that a wide shore with rich vegetation has been formed. The lakes are comparatively shallow: their epilimnion—which, together with the shore, produces the organic substances—is of a greater volume than their hypolimnion. When it dies, the rich vegetation of the shore and the surface water sinks down into the relatively small mass of water of the hypolimnion where it decomposes, thus in summer withdrawing the oxygen from the water of the lower levels to such an extent that in some cases the oxygen is entirely used up. As the sediments at the bottom of the lake are also rich in undecomposed, decaying organic substances, only such organisms can exist at the bottom which can remain alive with a minimum of oxygen. Although they have plenty of food, the oxygen conditions represent the factor limiting their quantity, a factor which in extreme conditions (when there is no free oxygen whatever) may reduce the life at the bottom of a lake to a minimum.

Such an extreme eutrophic lake is no longer in a stage of equilibrium. In it a surplus of organic substances is built up every year in organism bodies which cannot be completely decomposed again and returned to the circulation. This surplus produced in the epilimnion sinks down every year into the hypolimnion. Thus a deficit in nutrients would arise if—thanks to the location of these lakes in regions rich in plant nutrition—a constant influx of dissolved nutrients did not balance this deficit, so that every year the eutrophic lake can begin its circulation again with the same supply of nutrients. The intensity of the transfer to the hypolimpion of not entirely decomposed organic substances produced in the surface water determines the speed of the natural maturing of the lake, i.e., of its gradual transformation into a shallow pond, a bog, a marsh, and finally into firm land.

Hence the circulation of substances in a eutrophic lake is only in part a rhythmical, reversible process: it always includes a considerable irreversible residue. And this irreversible residue, especially the ooze of decaying matter being deposited at an increasing speed, shows that the lake is also dependent on outside factors not contained in the lake itself, that its totality is included in a greater system, a greater totality.

Thus the study of what happens in these two types of lake leads to the realization that the lake and its environment in turn form a superior unity. No essential part can be taken out of this totality without destroying the existing equilibrium: and this totality as such has its own laws, just as each community of life and every plant and animal species has its own laws. There is no such thing as an entirely self-sufficient single biotope, complete in itself, since all abodes of life are connected, linked up, contained in the one great sphere of life. Only this latter, i.e., the earth itself, the whole great realm of terrestrial life, might be called complete in itself and secluded.

But even this is not correct! One must not forget the cosmic influences involved in terrestrial happenings. Without the sun there can be no production of vegetable substances, no life! The rhythm between day and night influences all living things and can be noticed even in such details as the vertical expansion of the plankton in a lake.

Moreover, the change in seasons is caused by cosmic, not by terrestrial influences; and how this change affects the entire aspect of a sphere of life, even the build and way of life of very individual creature, especially in the higher latitudes, is so well known that we need only point to the appearance of the countryside in summer and in winter. In the lakes of our latitudes the change of seasons causes above all the change between periods of stagnation and circulation: in autumn, when the time returns where the temperature of the water sinks more at night than it rises during the day, the surface water gradually sinks to the bottom and the hypolimnion receives a new supply of oxygen.

Larger climatic fluctuations, which are never produced by terrestrial factors alone and whose causes are for the greater part to be sought beyond our planet, also affect the course of all kinds of biological phenomena. For more than thirty years the relationship between the climatic conditions of individual years and the size of the harvests in Norway, the fishery yield at the Lofoten Islands, and even the production of cod-liver oil has been known. It is the periodicity of the sun spots which makes itself felt here, as it does in the fluctuations of the ground water level, etc. The same periodicity has been proved in the bottom sediments of certain lakes. The sediments, however, are so to speak the excrements of the great organism "lake". In them is mirrored the character of its entire metabolism. Differences in sediment means differences in metabolism; if the rhythmical changes in the nature of the sediment coincide with the periods of the sun spots, this indicates a rhythmical, cosmic effect on the totality of the lake.

So the life of the lake not only extends beyond its borders but is entwined with the life of the highest totality we know, the cosmos. We see that limnological and hydrobiological work is, after all, more than just fishing for plankton or catching newts and frogs and water bugs.

Interlocks Biology

Thirty years ago, when the cry for synthesis was to be heard only in isolated cases, limonology was one of the first among the natural sciences to work toward synthesis and, in its own sphere, to build bridges between the various parts of biology and the nonbiological natural sciences. Its advance in the years after the last Great War— a development experienced by but a few of the other natural sciences— went parallel with the general trend, especially among the younger generation, to get away from specialization toward a uniform conception of the whole.

And the final goal of the study of nature seems to us to be—not, as one scientist put it, the uncovering of relationships of law—but, after an order, a totality, as a cosmos!

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EMERGENCY RAID PLANS DRAFTED BY METROPOLIS

Use of Remaining Buildings in Devastated Areas Prohibited or Restricted

A memorandum on the emergency measures dealing with the premises, buildings and factories in areas hit by air raids was submitted to the Government by the Tokyo Metropolitan Council of Commerce, Industry, and Economy on April 10. The following are its main points:

I. Emergency Measures for Premises and Buildings

a) In areas hit by air raids, the use of premises and buildings is now prohibited or restricted. Considering the serious effect on the life of the people, a total remission of the land tax should be granted as a relief measures for a period of five years, in respect of the premises in question. In regard to rents, it is also necessary that government compensation, not more than 50 per cent of the official lease values, be granted. In case, however, Government compensation exceeds the rents hitherto paid, the said compensation has to be restricted within the amounts of those rents.

b) In respect of the premises or buildings with mortgages established upon them, the discharge of obligations must be postponed until the execution of the plan for the restoration of the Metropolis or the establishment of the postwar reconstruction program. Meanwhile, Government assistance should be extended to the mortgages.

c) In case of premises, the use of which has become impossible on account of the Government prohibition or restriction above referred to the progress of lease periods must be suspended for the benefit of leaseholders, until the said Government prohibition or restriction is removed.

d) In regard to buildings partially destroyed by air raids; entire insurance amounts should be paid by the insurance companies as a provisional measure, if the buildings in question are to be scrapped. In such cases, the buldings are to become properties of the companies concerned.

e) A definite plan for the restoration of the Metropolis should be drawn up by the Government at an early date, to be published without delay for the guidance of the people of the Metropolis.

II. Emergency Measure for Factories

a) In carrying out the dispersal of factories, those in the areas hit by air raids should be accorded priority, and the control authorities in the districts where they are transferred must take necessary steps regarding equipment and materials. In case there are many such factories, business groups are to be formed by pooling the equipment and materials saved from destruction.

b) In order to provide an adequate number of dwellings for the workers, buildings in the areas not affected must be utilized, while the remodelling of solid buildings that still remain, as well as the construction of temporary dwellings in convenient places, must also be considered.

c) Regarding such factory tools and machines as may be capable of repair, immediate steps should be taken by the Industrial Equipment corporation through purchase or otherwise, so that they may again be put to use as speedily as possible.

IMPORT CONTROLS LIFTED

Exemption Measure Applied to Goods From Continent

Imports to Japan from Kwantung Leased Territory, Manchoukuo, and China (including Mongolia, Hongkong, and Kainanto), which come under the Second Clause of Article XII of the Regulations for Enforcing the Foreign Trade Control Law, will be exempt from the application of the Foreign Trade Exchange Control Regulations on and after April 12, it was announced by the Official Gazette, Thursday.

Already from May 1, last year, specified imports from the Kwantung Leased Territory and Manchoukuo under the Second Clause of Article XII of the Regulations for Enforcing the Foreign Trade Control Law were exempted from the application of the Foreign Trade Exchange Control Law, with the abolition of the Customs tariff between Japan and Manchoukuo. Now the same exemptions have been applied also to such imports from all parts of China, in view of the present urgent situation.

Concert Calendar

Violin recital by Miss Mary Estelle Iwamoto, accompanied by Urimaru Nobechi, at the piano, Saturday, April 14, at 5 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Program: Cesar Franck's Sonata in A major; Mitsukuri Akiyoshi's Nocturne; Bach's Chaconne (without accompaniment); Chopin's Nocturne, Waltz, and Etude; Beethoven's Sonata in A major, Op. 47, (Kreutzer Sonata).

Will of Special Attack Air Corps Stronger; Admiral Takahashi Is Confident of Victory

By T. TOGO
Of the Military Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED NAVY BASE, April 10.—Not the slightest cloud has darkened the features of the men at this base, whose determination to crush the enemy forces has been made all the stronger by the landing of enemy forces on Japanese soil. Calmer and more determined than ever, the men are preparing for their operations.

On the wall of the headquarters hang beautifully inscribed cards. "The fate of Japan depends on this fight," says one of them, while another says, "Though a million enemy planes come, we shall crush them, operating in close collaboration with our land forces," another reads, "The glorious traditions of our Navy are about to be carried on by you men. You shall follow the examples of the special attack corp, fight fiercely and lay the cornerstone for the defence of our country."

As I read these stirring words, the commander said, "We are going to do our duty. That's all there is to it." The meaning of this short statement is writ in the increasing number of enemy ships sunk and damaged.

Take April 6, for example. As our special attack air units attacked enemy fleet units in the Okinawa area, we received one radio report after the other, reporting ramming operations. On this day alone, our airmen damaged one battleship and four aircraft carriers. As they rammed enemy fleet units, the pilots radioed, "I am now ramming a carrier," or "I am about to ram a battleship." After this other air units continued to launch successive attacks against the enemy ships. Even from land alone could be seen 70 enemy ships sunk.

Instructions for All

"The instruction given by Admiral Soemu Toyoda, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, is one given not only to the Navy but also to the entire people of the Empire, and any one who is not aroused by reading this instruction is not a Japanese," said Admiral Sankichi Takahashi in commenting on Admiral Toyoda's instruction to the Navy.

"Even though we may not be able to smash entirely the enemy warships and other ships around the Southwestern Islands," said Admiral Takahashi, "there is no need to become pessimistic. If they come, we will smash them. We will continue that every time the enemy ships come. We will do so twice, three times or as many times as they come. I believe that is the real factor for victory.

"At the time of the Russo-Japanese War, we smashed the enemy by a single sea battle. But the progress of arms has entirely changed the aspect of sea battles. Our Navy fought off Taiwan and then off the Philippines with the same spirit as we are doing at present. Our Navy is always fighting with the spirit of the recent instruction given by Admiral Toyoda.

"But it is needless to say that the battle around Okinawa will have a special significance on the final outcome of the war. Reading this instruction, I felt the same strong fighting spirit as I did aboard the warship Shikishima on hearing Admiral Togo's instruction—'The destiny of the Empire depends on the outcome of this battle.' To the entire 100,000,000 people of the Empire, I say let us all become Special Attack Corps with full conviction of our sure victory."

CO-EFFORT WITH MILITARY IS STRESSED BY KOBIYAMA

Transport Chief Is Man of Action; Will Bolster Communications With Continent

Naoto Kobiyama, the new Transport and Communications Minister, at a press interview on Wednesday afternoon, stressed the importance of powerful administrative measures and full collaboration with the military. Mr. Kobiyama's statement to the press follows:

"A firm fighting spirit is the most vital factor in the decisive stage of a war. We must handle affairs with renewed spiritual power and through close cooperation between the military and people and between thought and spirit. If every one of us follows the imperial Will and offers himself in unstinted service, all problems will become solved of themselves.

"Both transport and communications are vital to the prosecution of war. Therefore, I intend to propel the future transport administration in the closest collaboration with the military.

"In order to strengthen the self-sufficiency bloc of Japan, Manchoukuo, and China, I intend especially to consolidate the transport structure between Japan and the continent, to propel this policy on a unified plan, and to maintain full transport communications between Japan, Manchoukuo, and China.

"In view of the inevitability of intensified air raids and the resultant damage, the threat to transport and communications facilities will increase considerably. Thus, the defense of transport and communications facilities has become increasingly important. The defense of transport facilities is, of course, the responsibility of the military, but local, independent defense must be strengthened also. In order to bolster our defenses, it is natural that we should be given a free hand to cut down woods at will in case we need timber.

"In regard to marine transport, I wish to say that it is my belief that it is far more important to manage it through full collaboration among the military Government, and people rather than to attach overmuch importance on structural matters. In short, I believe in action and the carrying through of measures rather than in planning."

SUMO PROGRAM STUDIED

Conditions May Prevent Full-Scale Summer Tournament

The directors of the Dai Nippon Sumo Association held a meeting at their headquarters on Tuesday and decided to draw up their program for the summer wrestling tournament. No definite measures have been drafted yet, in view of the uncertainty of future conditions due to air raids and the conscription or mobilization of the professional wrestlers, although all of the "yokozuna" and "ozeki" are able to take part in the summer matches.

Toyoshima and Matsuuragata, who were killed during air raids, leave a great gap, much regretted by the sumo fans.

The Sumo Association directors are of the opinion that, in case circumstances make it impossible to hold a full-scale summer tournament, they may hold non-official contests on a small scale.

News and Views

Denunciation of Japan-Soviet Neutrality Pact

As had been expected the Soviet Union notified Japan of her decision not to extend the existing Japan-Soviet Neutrality Pact upon its expiration in April next year. Since this denunciation had been expected long before, the Soviet Government's notification does not mean that there has been or will be a rapid change in the relations between the two countries.

However, it is true that, as pointed out by the Soviet Government as one of the reason for not extending the pact, there have occurred subsequent to the conclusion of this pact such events as the outbreak of hostilities between Germany and the Soviet Union and between Japan and the United States and Britain which have changed the general situation surrending this pact.

Nevertheless, it must be pointed out that the Neutrality Pact was concluded in anticipation of the occurrence of such a situation. The Fishery Treaty signed between Japan and the Soviet Union in March 1944 was consummated with full understanding of such new developments in the situation and on the basis of the spirit of the Neutrality Pact. Accordingly, these developments do not in the least constitute adequate reason for denouncing the Neutrality Pact at this time.

If one is to give any explanation at all for the Soviet Government's denunciation of the pact, he can only say that the Soviet Government's interpretation of these developments has changed during the past one year. The Soviet Government pointed out that Japan is assisting Germany. This fact, however, is no different from the fact that the Soviet Union is assisting the United States and Britain. From the standpoint of evaluating the Japan-Soviet Neutrality Pact, both sides have ignored these facts as very insignificant matters.

Under these circumstances, it is possible to make the interpretation that the Soviet notification of the denunciation of the pact is due to the occurrence recently of circumstances which make the Neutrality Pact no longer necessary or desirable to the Soviet Union, such that she cannot be bothered by the question of what reasons she should give to justify its denunciation at this time. If we stretch our imagination, such circumstances may be countless, but we may as well accept the Soviet move with equanimity, inasmuch as we had anticipated it on basis of due consideration of these facts.

Although the anti-Axis camp is now wild with joy, as if the Soviet Union's action will lead to startling events, there is no reason why we should be startled by it, for we have already a clear understanding of things through our relations with the Soviet Union for many years. So long as we have a correct judgment of the kind of country the Soviet Union is, the existence or non existence of the Neutrality Pact is immaterial to us.

POLITICAL BODY'S LINEUP IS ANNOUNCED BY MINAMI

21 Advisers, 22 Managers and Others for New Organ Are Appointed

General Jiro Minami, President of the Dai Nippon Political Association, who has been giving his attention to the selection of the officials of the new organization ever since his appointment, announced the names of the advisers, managers, and other officials of the Association on Tuesday.

The following 21 persons were named advisers: Admiral Baron Kiyetane Yasuho, Hachiro Arita, Teruo Akashi, Sotaro Ishiwata, Shinya Uchiya, Tadao Oasa, Okinobu Kaya, Matajiro Koizumi, Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, Fumio Goto, Vice-Admiral Takuo Godo, Yukio Sakurauchi, Mamoru Shigemitsu, Toshio Shimada, Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Tatekawa, Chikuhei Nakajima, Yonezo Maeda, Chuji Machida, Rentaro Mizuno, Toyotaro Yuki, and Tatsunosuke Yamazaki.

Tsuneo Kanemitsu was named President of the Board of Managers, and the 22 managers appointed are Seiichi Aoki, Ryozo Asano, Kishichiro Oka, Masataka Ota, Masanori Katsu, Yadanji Nakajima, Tsuneo Kanemitsu, Shojiro Kawashima, Ichiro Kiyose, Count Hideo Kodama, Hiroshi Shimomura, Kojiro Tsutsumi, Matsutaro Shoriki, Shingoro Takaishi, Morihei Takahashi, Yusuke Tsurumi, Minoru Togo, Mamoru Nagano, Katsuji Masaki, Eiji Miyoshi, Chokei Murayama, and Saburo Hakkaku.

Kenzo Matsumura was appointed chief secretary of the Association; Takeo Tanaka, president of the Society of the members of the House of Representatives; Nagakichi Shoda, Director of the Political Affairs Investigation Committee; and Yoshimichi Tsuboi, Director of the Organization Committee.

HOUSES FOR EVACUEES

1,200 Completed in Chiba and Ibaraki For Tokyo Families

The 1,200 houses that the Tokyo Metropolitan Office commenced erecting last year in various places in Chiba and Ibaraki prefectures have been completed and are ready for occupation by people who are being compulsorily evacuated from Tokyo.

These dwellings will be controlled by the Housing Corporation. Evacuated persons wishing to rent any of these houses may apply to their respective ward offices which will issue rental permits after considering the financial standing and vocations of the applicants.

Those who receive permission to rent these houses must make a down payment equal to two months' rent as security within five days of receiving their permits, when they will be granted full permission to take up residence in the dwellings designated them. The amount of money to be paid in as security and the number of guarantors for the tenants may be changed at will by the Governor of Tokyo.

TO UP TOBACCO RATION

5 Cigarettes, Some Cut Tobacco Set As 1 Day's Supply

The daily tobacco ration will be increased probably from the beginning of May to five cigarettes and some "Nozomi" cut tobacco sufficient to make two cigarettes.

The ration was reduced to three cigarettes a day on March 29, but as the Monopoly Bureau has found means to revive the former ration, the increased quantity will be distributed throughout the entire country from about the beginning of May.

Special rations for designated workers may also be revived at the rate of about one cigarette a day.

Women's Role Stressed

In view of the fact that increased production of food will more and more be in the hands of women in the farming districts, the Ibaraki Farmers' Association has decided to choose one woman to represent each unit of the Increased Food Production Groups in the prefecture, for closer contact with the association. By this, the realization of the role of women in food production will be further stressed, while at the same time various improvements in food production will be promoted.

Press Comments

Thursday, April 12

WAR AND SLOGAN

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Prime Minister Admiral Kantaro Suzuki has stated that fighting needs no slogans. It is just as he said, for war politics which merely display slogans and issue commands are meaningless. It may appear utterly void of significance at this point to trace back the the origins and state why the War of Greater East Asia broke out: but as given in the Imperial Rescript Declaring War on the United States and Britain, this is a war for the protection of our country. Accordingly, no slogans are required.

In order to protect our country, we were compelled to take up arms; and when the situation demands that we be on the offensive or on the defensive, this does not in the least change the essential character of the war which from the outset has been a defensive war as far as Japan is concerned. There is reason to fear any rate lest the word "defensive" may sound passive; the defense of the nation has always been the mission placed upon the people.

Said the Prime Minister: "Considered from my individual standpoint, the situation of today is unusually disquieting, but must obviously be thought of as something self-evidently promised since the outset of the war." And apart from the actual shifts of the war, its essential character is just as stated by the Prime Minister. Regarding the actualities of the war, Prime Minister Suzuki, too, is feeling concern, as is the case with the people, too. But considered from the essential character of the war, the people have from the outset been pledged to become the fighters for the defense of the nation, and this has always been their mission. As long as this is not forgotten, there is no need for any slogans whatsoever.

By no means do we say that it was meaningless that in the past the character of this war was explained from various angles, that thus all sorts of slogans were born, and the people was guided accordingly. But the people were somewhat bewildered by all kinds of slogans and could not fully display the strength that corresponded to their ability.

Prime Minister Suzuki says that he is a mere soldier and does not understand politics; but truly something may be expected from his resolute declaration that the war needs no slogan. All slogans are exhausted in the contents of the Imperial Rescript Declaring War.

Slogans sometimes give rise to all sorts of misunderstandings. There are very many cases in which Clausewitz' word about "war being the continuation of politics by different means" has become a misunderstood slogan. But if State politics are powerful, and the deeper the consciousness of the aims, the conclusion will be correct that a war started by politics will grow ever more powerful. We are hoping for war politics in this sense from the nation's new leader. It was truly a matter of joy that we could feel this spirit and determination from the first statement of the Prime Minister who has offered his all for the national crisis in spite of his advanced age.

Extreme speed is now required for adjusting the fighting position of the people. The present situation is such that a great and courageous spirit is required. To demand the awakening of this spirit on the part of the people, slogans alone are not enough. War means destruction. Yet, under the fire from all-destructive shells, it is urgently necessary not to lose the order of ordinary life. That is the reason why the war, while being destructive, is at the same time constructive. In view of the present stage of the war for the defense of the nation, we place our expectations in the concrete measures of the new Cabinet which stands on such a basis.

Miners Form Guard Unit

In order to guard the very source of increased war production, a guard unit has been formed at the Tagawa Mines in Yamagata Prefecture. Made up of 12 members dividing into day and night units of six each, they alternate in going the rounds in guarding and defending the mines. Also over 200 members of a hunting club at the mines have formed a volunteer corps with the resolve to make use of their marksmenship skill in fighting the enemy, should they dare to attempt a landing on the mainland.

SPECIAL ATTACK FLIERS RAM 4 ENEMY CARRIERS

Last Meeting of Airmen Before Take-Off in Okinawa Area Described By Scribe

By O. ONODA
Of the Military Press Corps

Members of a Shitei reconnaissance plane special attack corps and escorting Suisei fighter units, commanded by Lieutenant Tatsuo Takenaka of Mukden and First Lieutenant Sogoro Onuma of Yokohama respectively gathered together at the fighter command headquarters to receive final instructions before taking off to attack an enemy task force coming to the rescue of enemy aircraft carriers damaged east of the Okinawas on April 7.

Shaking hands firmly with Lieutenant Takenaka, commander of the Shitei special attack force, First Lieutenant Onuma in charge of the escort fighters, said, "We're relying on you." At which Lieutenant Takenaka, replied, "Thanks, we also are counting on your help." After the others had left, Lieutenant Takenaka, Sergeant Shigehatsu Yoshihara and the other members of the special attack corps sat down to lunch.

"I am a war correspondent. There is no regular Army correspondent here, but I wish to wish you godspeed on behalf of all the war correspondents," said I. Lieutenant Takenaka, who thanked me on behalf of his men, was a small-built youngster. "Has the Shitei special attack corps been given any special name?," I asked. "Not that I know of," answered the young Lieutenant. All the members of this special attack corps were youngsters, only recently graduated from Junior Air Schools or from the Air Academy. With his wrist watch tied on with a cherry-colored ribbon he had picked up on his way to the advance base, the young commander answered my questions shyly. On behalf of his men, Lieutenant Takenaka said, "We are going with a firm belief in victory." Such were the heartening words he used.

Addressing his men, Lieutenant Takenaka said, "If we find only one aircraft carrier, I shall sink it. Let nobody else ram it. Also, you must be sure to return here. Be sure not to close your eyes in case you take part in ramming operations!" Sergeant Yoshihara, looking around, asked if nobody had any cigarettes. When I offered my pack, he would not take a cigarette at first, but at last accepted one and lighted up. Then, after letting everyone take a drag on the one cigarette, Sergeant Yoshihara said, "Now. Let's take off." With firm step the men ran to their planes and boarded them. I was almost moved to tears as I thought that there had not been overmuch food nor enough cigarets to go around.

The ground crew stood at attention and watched the special attack planes and the Suisei escort units taking off. The base commander came out also and shouted a last message asking the wild eagles to ably fulfil their task by cooperating fully. Above the roar of the motors, could be heard Lieutenant Takenaka's parting words as he shouted, "Farewell." First Lieutenant Onuma's escort plane took off first to be followed by Lieutenant Takenaka's Shitei special attack plane. Raising coulds of dust in their wake, the planes roared along the runways and took off toward the southern skies.

We, at the base, waved our caps and prayed in our hearts for the success of our airmen. At the headquarters, after what seemed a long wait, we received the first radio message. "Four aircraft carriers sighted," said the first radio report. Three more messages came through, reporting the sighting of more carriers. First Lieutenant Onuma's last report said, "I am ramming a carrier," as he crashed right into an enemy carrier. After seeing Lieutenant Takenaka and Sergeant Yoshihara ram enemy carriers, First Lieutenant Onuma, on escort duty, had also engaged in a ramming attack. As we listened to the radio reports coming in, we saw before our eyes a vision of the special attack airmen and the escort pilots chatting to each other and slapping each other on the back just before they took off, and our thoughts turned back to the training the special attack corps airmen had undergone.

MUNITIONS FIRMS NAMED

Nine Electric Companies Picked as Auxiliary Concerns

Nine electric power distribution companies including the Hokkaido Electric Power Distribution Company have been designated as auxiliary munitions companies by the Munitions Ministry under date of April 10.

The step was in line with the action taken by the Government in designating the Nippon Electric Power Generation and Transmission Company. The designation of the nine power distribution companies has brought to perfection the structure ensuring the munitions industries all the power needed by them.

The regulations governing the naming of auxiliary munitions companies were promulgated on January 27. This is the first time that the regulations have been applied to companies under the jurisdiction of the Munitions Ministry.

The undertakings previously designated as auxiliary munitions companies were warehouse companies, port and harbor works, and provincial railways and electric communication undertakings, all of which are under the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Communications Ministry.

Refugees Join Food Front

War victims who have taken refuge in Soma and locality, in Fukushima Prefecture, have one after another been filing applications for work on the front lines of food production. In Soma alone, 50 people have found work in 15 days. The example set by three sisters, Miss Masako Takahashi, 22, Miss Toshiko, 20, and Miss Sakue, 17, of Fukagawa-ku, Tokyo, who were burned out of house and home, in taking up shovel and hoe for increased food production, has been conducive to the eagerness of all the raid victims in Soma to do their share too.

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Senator Nye's Prediction

The prediction made by retiring United States Senator Gerald P. Nye in his farewell speech before the Senate that the United States will be at war with the Soviet Union in the next twenty years and perhaps even within the next ten years deserves attention, not as an expression of an Isolationist's opinion but as a manifestation of a widespread presentiment of a vast majority of the American people. Former Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, exponent of America's New Imperalism, himself prophesied some time ago that another war will overtake the world if the major outstanding issues between the Anglo-American countries and the Soviet Union are not immediately solved.

Certainly Senator Nye was not being an alarmist when he made this prophesy. The events which have been unfolding in Europe ever since the Anglo-American landing on the coast of France clearly prove that his vaticination is not based on false realism. According to Senator Nye, the present developments in Poland, Italy, and China indicate not only the return after the war to the old balance of power system in Europe and the return of imperialism in Asia but also form the causes of another world war. The Anglo-American-Soviet political clash over Rumania, the refusal of the United States and Britain to allow the pro-Soviet Polish Provisional Government's participation in the coming San Francisco Conference, as well as the sharpened Three Power rivalry over the Dardanelles particularly give substance to the fear expressed by Senator Nye of the possibility of another war involving these three countries.

Senator Nye's prediction is also important in another respect. It reflects the open mistrust, suspicion and jealousy which exists in the United States over the actions of the Soviet Union which, since the turn of the tide on the Eastern Front in favor of the Red Army, has been pursuing an independent diplomatic policy in Europe. Last year, the American Institute of Public Opinion, for instance, stated that one-half of the people in the United States are still skeptical of the Soviet Union and of her postwar intentions and that this widespread skepticism which is shared by all geographical sections and age groups constitutes one of the major obstructions toward wholehearted Anglo-American-Soviet collaboration. How deep is this distrust and hatred of Communist Russia in the United States is revealed by the serious charges which have been recently made by American newspapers about the "bolshevization of Rumania" and the "Soviet terror in Poland". Though Izvestia, the Soviet Government organ, condemned these charges as "foolish rumors" fabricated by a section of "reactionary American newspapers" such as the New York World-Telegram and the Chicago Tribune, it would perhaps be more correct to state that not only these papers but a great majority of the American people really believe that the Soviet Union is unscrupulously seeking to "bolshevize" the entire European Continent.

Though, to be sure, there have been conflicts of policies between the Anglo-American countries, there is very little doubt that these countries will combine in a common action against the Soviet Union when the vital national interests and security of one of them is threatened in the future by the Soviet Colossus. The common steps now being taken by these nations against the Soviet Union over the Rumanian, Polish and Dardanelles questions as well as their joint resistance last year against the Soviet encroachments into Iran definitely portend such a possibility in the future. That the Anglo-American countries will also take common action against the Soviet Union in the proposed international security machinery is also a foregone conclusion.

To the sinister implications of these facts, the Soviet Union cannot be oblivious. Her policy of setting up "friendly" pro-Soviet governments in her neighboring countries points to the nature of the preparations now being made by the Soviet Union to meet the future Anglo-American challenge.

Effect of Clothing on Sound

Audiences in a theater or motion picture house absorb more sound in winter than in summer, due to the increase in clothing in the colder season. For this reason actresses and actors have to speak louder to winter audiences and the loud-speaking talking picture equipment has to be tuned up to higher volume in winter to make the spoken sounds clearly audible throughout the building. The quality of clothing worn by an audience is a large factor in determining the length of time required for sounds in a theater to decay and fall to zero.

Experiments with sound reverberation and acoustical materials have been conducted in a specially constructed building housing a large empty room having no sound absorption and no acoustical properties. A loud speaker was placed in the empty room and the length of time required for the sound to decay after the source was shut off was measured.

These experiments were carried on first in an empty room and then repeated with various types of materials having acoustic properties placed along the walls and ceiling. In this way practically every type of acoustical material now made has been tested.

Among the more common substances from which acoustical materials are made are plaster and hair felt, sugar cane fiber, pumice and rock wool, the latter being the result of molten rock blown through exceedingly fine jets. Some of the materials were found to have higher coefficients of sound absorption than others. In general those of higher coefficients seem to be more costly.

A greater amount of acoustical material is ordinarily used in motion picture houses than in theaters due to the fact that the human voice is weak compared to the stentorian tones of which the talking motion picture apparatus is capable. The louder the tones the more is the effect of reverberation and therefore the automatic voices being so much stronger require more damping material in the picture houses.

In theaters and picture houses the materials are usually placed on the walls and ceilings with drapes or curtains used over the doors and entrances. In many theaters only a little acoustic material is necessary, due to the banks of soft velvet covered spring seats that absorb sound to a high degree.

A Year Ago Today
April 13, 1944

Fedor Gousev, Soviet Ambassador to Britain, exchanged notes with William Jordan, New Zealand High Commissioner to Britain, regarding the opening of diplomatic relations and the exchange of envoys between the Soviet Union and New Zealand, it was revealed.

* * *

One enemy plane was shot down by Japanese Units on Ponape Island in the afternoon when our forces intercepted a unit of six B-25 bombers that attempted to raid our position there. No damage was reported on our side.

* * *

The question of the Anglo-American oil embargo against Spain again came into prominence when the British Government, through Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Madrid, protested against the alleged confiscation by the Spanish Government of the Anglo-American oil supplies at Tetuan in Spanish Morocco, it was revealed.

* * *

Japanese Units at Kavieng on New Ireland Island downed seven planes and inflicted damage upon several others with direct hits in the morning when a formation of 47 enemy planes including 28 SBD's, 12 TBF's and seven fighters, appeared over our position. All the rest of the raiders were put to rout by the furious Japanese anti-aircraft gunfire. Damage on the Japanese side was very slight.

* * *

Damage of about $750,000 was estimated to have resulted from a fire which burned down the Morrison-Knudson hangar at the Anchorage airport in Alaska, according to an Anchorage report to Los Angeles. The blaze destroyed five planes, 18 aircraft engines, other supplies and equipment, it was disclosed.

THE TRUE TOLSTOY

He Questioned the World and Condemned the World

Tolstoy, it has often been said, was like a peasant. This is incorrect, according to a writer who saw and talked to him shortly before his death. Tolstoy, says this observer, was simply and naturally a country gentleman.

But he was never at peace. He was not free. He questioned the world and condemned the world because he was always questioning and condemning himself. By the almost mechanical exercise of a powerful intellect he could break his personal contacts for a time and maintain himself in a kind of vacuum. He had his intervals of serenity, reflected in "Confession," "On Life," "Thoughts on God." In such intervals joy arose in him from an almost physical sensation of some transcendental force of goodness. But there was no long escape from the darkness which had haunted him from his youth, from his childhood even, and which drove him perpetually to ask the universe for a clear answer to the ultimate questions. He thought he had discovered in the end a universal solution for his personal problem. He preached it to the world vehemently, defiantly, as though by strong assertion he could affirm his still precarious certainty. But the final peace, the complete assurance, eluded him. Whether he discovered it before death overtook him at a wayside station after his escape from home in 1910 no one will ever know.

A 'Russian' Russian

With all his affirmation of absolutes and universals Tolstoy was anything but cosmopolitan. A more Russian Russian one would hardly expect to meet. He was rooted in the soil. He knew little of the outside world. Apart from one journey, in the course of which he visited Germany, the south of France, and London, he never went abroad. In Russia, too, he travelled little. He studied for a short time in Kazan and St. Petersburg; he served as an artillery officer in the Caucasus and the Crimea. But for the greater part of his long life he lived either in Moscow or on his estate at Yasnaya Polyana, not far away. He lacked a historical sense. An omnivorous reader, he had no educational discipline, distrusted experts, and was inclined to avoid argument or discussion with men of his own intellectual caliber. He was a lonely man, and though he knew thousands of people and observed them acutely it is hard to point out more than two or three who might be considered his intimate friends. With his acute self-consciousness, his strong passions, and his habit of torturing introspection, he was always building barriers that needed an effort to break down. With Nature he was simply and physically at home, when he was not trying to extract meanings from her; he was at home, too, with the common people when he was sharing their pursuits, hunting with them or working, as in that marvellous mowing scene in "Anna Karenina." But his theoretical admiration of the peasants again embarrassed both him and them in personal intercourse. Tolstoy was a very lonely man, lonelier still when, after a respite during which he was absorbed in his family life and in the free exercise of his creative powers in writing the two great novels, "War and Peace" and "Anna Karenina," he found that his personal problem was still unsolved and that he must fight his way out alone to an issue.

Detachment From Affairs

Russian though he was through and through, he was yet essentially alone in Russia. He lived in a remarkable period of Russian history, and it is extraordinary how little part he took in the movements of his time. He was born four years after the death of Alexander I and the Decembrist rising. He grew up in the reactionary reign of Nicholas I but seems to have been but slightly affected by the political and philosophical controversies of that period. Politics left him cold; he was wrapped up in the struggle between his passions and his conscience. He was not stirred by the reforms of Alexander 11 in the sixties except in so far as they gave him an opportunity to develop his theories of popular education. For some reason he intensely disliked the new Zemstvos, or country councils, and caricatured them absurdly. He lived on into the new century and observed with detachment the constitutional struggle, the grant of the Constitution, and the establishment of the Duma. He cared for none of these things. His attack was against modern society as a whole—as he conceived it—not merely against specific conditions in Russia, though he was occasionally persuaded to protest against Russian abuses, as in the pamphlet "I cannot be silent," directed against the wholesale executions after the 1905 revolution.

Nor did he take a genuine interest in ideas, apart from such moral significance as he might perceive in them. He stood apart from the great literary movement which his own work enriched, and formed no real friendships with his fellow-writers. He quarrelled with Turgenieff; he never made an effort to meet Dostoievsky. Dostoievsky's speculations on the destiny of Russia were alien to him. Tolstoy was, indeed, anything but a philosopher. He plucked from the philosophers sentences that bore on his moral problem, but their general conceptions escaped him. He would quote Kant with affection, mainly, perhaps, because of the Categorical Imperative. But his real concern was to escape from the shadow, the fear that haunted him all his days.

Struggle for a Soul

Tolstoy was, in fact, intent on saving his soul though the world might fall. It was a great struggle because, with all his obvious limitations and inconsistencies, he was a man of great elemental power and extraordinary artistic gifts. It was a tragedy, too, not only because he battled alone, imprisoned within himself in a fierce exercise of will, but because his confusion reflected the confusion of Russia in his time and reacted upon it in its turn. Tolstoy had few professed followers—fewer perhaps in Russia than in England and America; but his indirect influence was enormous. Many were stirred by his preaching of simplification, of non-resistance, of love. Deeper still was the influence of his wholesale negation of society as at present constituted, of the modern organization of life with all its abuses and its magnificent achievements. He recognized no scale of values, no balancing of gain and loss, no graduations of good or evil, but denounced the whole scheme of things with apocalyptic fervor. He vehemently rejected the Church—not the Russian Church only, but every form of institutional religion. He abhorred political revolution, but he stimulated that destructive Nihilism which has so strongly marked revolutionary movements in Russia. He would have loathed the rigidity of Bolshevism and denounced its violence, but in a sense this blind Samson straining at the pillars was a precursor of Bolshevism. Yet he earnestly sought God, whom the Bolshevists deny, and he had a passion for goodness. If to his splendid gifts had been added the grace of humility, who knows what ways of deliverance might have opened out to him and to that Russia of which he was so great a part? His is a memory of glory and of pain.

SYMBOL OF POWER POLITICS

Dumbarton Oaks Plan Is Scheme to Dominate World By Sacrificing Rights of Smaller Nations

By Professor Keiitsu Kawakami
Of Kansai University

The plan for the "United Nations" which was made public in America, Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking on October 9, last year provoked, as everybody knows, a good deal of comment in this country. The criticism then made of it was, generally speaking, political, as was only natural in view of the highly subjective and tactical nature of the plan. In the present article, however, I propose to comment on it chiefly from the point of legal philosophy. No matter what the tactical purpose of its drafters may have been, the plan is now presented to the world as representing an objective idea and so it must necessarily live or die as such. It is, therefore, no less important to analyze it as an objective idea than to analyze the subjective idea of its drafters.

The League of Nations formed after the first World War has sunk into obscurity from a variety of causes. Will the "United Nations" fare better, then? Does it embody any improvement on the former organization?

Ten Chapters

The new League draft consists of ten chapters, the object of which is set forth in the first chapter. To attain the end in view, it is proposed to set up a central organ for adjusting and unifying the activities of the nations. The second chapter deals with its fundamental principles. But neither in its aim nor in its principles do we find any marked contrast with the defunct League of Nations. It is so stipulated that its membership should be open to all peace-loving nations and that the organization should have a General Assembly, a Security Council, an International Court of Justice, a Secretariat and the necessary subsidiary organs. Of all these organs, the Security Council is to play the most important role as one which prepares and carries out decisions to be taken by the General Assembly. The International Court of Justice is to be composed of all member States of the "United Nations." As important as the provisions governing the Security Council are the stipulations providing for the prevention and suppression of aggression and the methods otherwise laid down for maintaining international peace and security. The chapter relative to the arrangements for international economic and social cooperation evidently contain clauses more noteworthy than those aiming at international cooperation in the League of Nations Covenant.

Lastly, as regards procedural stipulations, in the chapter relative to transitional arrangements which operate pending the enforcement of the "special agreement" to which reference will be made later on, cooperative action to be taken under the Four-Power declaration of Moscow is provided for. And it is so contrived that America, Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking should transitionally represent the League structure. To give one notable example of transitional measures, it is stipulated that any provision of the present League Charter should not be construed as negating action to be taken by anti-Axis countries against their enemies as the result of the present war.

Concerning "Amendments" in Chapter 11, whereas in the case of the League of Nations Covenant, revisions were not held binding on the member States which had withheld approval thereof, any revision effected through the regular procedure of the provisions of the present League plan is made applicable to all member States.

Security Council

The Security Council is to be composed of the representatives of eleven member States. Of these States, America, Britain, the Soviet Union, Chungking and, in due course, France will have permanent seats, while the other six States are to be elected by the General Assembly to fill non-permanent seats. When the Security Council has discharged its obligations in accordance with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of security with which it is charged by the League States, its action is to be considered as having been taken on behalf of all the member States, and it is made obligatory on all the member States to accept and carry out the decisions of the Council. While the Security Council has the obligation to draw up a "plan for the armaments control structure" to be submitted to the member States, with the assistance of the "Military Staff Committee" to which reference will be made later on, it is empowered to set up, in case of necessity, regional sub-committees of the Military Staff Committee and other organs.

Among the important powers with which it is invested are, besides those concerning the peaceful settlement of disputes, the Powers to decide whether actions brought before it really imperil peace or whether they are aggressive, and also to study measures to be taken to deal with such actions. These measures include the entire or partial interception of means of communication and the rupture of diplomatic and economic relations. In case these measures are still found inadequate, the Security Council is authorized to take such action as it deems necessary by mobilizing armed forces. The Security Council also has the power to decide, with the help of the Military Staff Committee, the strength of the international air force held in readiness for use by the member States, the degree of mobilization and plans for cooperative action, within the special arrangements made between member nations.

The Military Staff Committee is to consist of the chiefs of staff or their representatives of the States with permanent seats on the Security Council, and its function is to make recommendations or render aid to the Security Council in regard to such military actions as are necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security which the Security Council is called upon to take.

Besides, there are regional arrangements or organs designed for the promotion of international peace and security which the Security Council can utilize for the purpose as institutions closely related to it.

Economic and Social Council

Referring to the arrangements relative to international economic and social cooperation, there is the Economic and Social Council, an organ established for the settlement of matters with bearings on international economy, society and culture. This Council, besides carrying out the recommendations of the General Assembly or making recommendations itself, is to receive and study reports from various connected organs, to cooperate with them or to investigate and give advice on the budgetary matters of these special organs. It is further charged with the duty of assisting the Secretary-General of the Secretariat and aiding the Security Council at its request, besides performing the duties of various kinds entrusted to it by the General Assembly.

From what I have so far described, the characteristics of the new League as distinct from those of the League of Nations must be clear. What particularly strikes the observer in regard to the new League plan is that power politics constitutes its marked feature. Its gives no hint of disarmament. It lacks that trinity of disarmament, security and jurisdiction which characterized the League of Nations. Stress is laid, not on disarmament, but on the use of armed force against aggression. The establishment of the Military Staff Committee testifies eloquently to this fact. It even appears that armed restraint is held to be the Magna Carta of peace. The striking contrast it offers to the League of Nations Covenant in this regard can easily be seen from the fact that, in the latter, of the three kinds of sanctions provided for, economic measures alone were really practicable, the other two, expulsion from the League and armed restraint, having been found hard of execution in practice.

In as much as the use of armed force forms its salient feature, the new League plan is particularly characterized with the idea of hegemony. The principle of self-determination, which featured the League of Nations, is nowhere to be seen in the new League plan, and it is observable that the principle of the Big Powers dominates in its stead, for this principle consorts well with power politics. "Security" in the new plan is accordingly highly tactical in its conception. It can thus easily be seen that the theme of the new league sets, that of maintaining the status quo. It may further be noted that the new League plan is devoid of even such provision pertaining to revisions as was provided for in Article 19 of the League Covenant.

Many Provisions Outlined

The new League plan contains many provisions presumably suggested by the failure of the League of Nations, but these stipulations are of a kind which may still be regarded as defective. Among the arrangements which were apparently made in the light of the unsavory experiences of the League of Nations are the following:—

(1) In regard to sanctions, steps are taken to make them more effective by setting up the Military Staff Committee or by deleting the provision of withdrawal. (2) Various organs are newly established to buttress the League structure so as to enable it to give fuller effect to its functions. The Military Staff Committee, regional arrangements and organs, and the Economic and Social Council are, for instance, created to enable the General Assembly and the Security Council to perform their respective functions more effectively. (3) As already noted, the new League plan is far more militaristic in conception than the defunct League of Nations. It seeks at the same time to strengthen the ties of international cooperation and union, politically, economically and socially. (4) By linking regional arrangements and organs to the Security Council, attempts are made to promote harmony with local autonomy so as to ward off the evil of the centralization of power. (5) Whereas the League of Nations was largely idealistic, the new League plan is practical in many respects.

As to how the Security Council should decide "agression," which is the most important part of the whole plan, the point is left unsettled. Consequently, the problem of the use of armed force remains unsolved after all, for, from the point of view of the leading anti-Axis Powers who aspire to the hegemony of the world, aggression on the part of the bigger Powers is a matter of much greater moment than agression on the part of smaller countries.

Lastly, we may direct attention to the fact that empty internationalism which figured in the League of Nations remains in the new plan. This is very incongruous from the viewpoint of the idea of the new order of co-prosperity which we are going to establish in Greater East Asia.

Easy

A professor was trying to demonstrate a simple experiment in the generation of steam.

"What have I in my hand?," he asked.

"A tin can" was the answer.

"Is the can an animate or an inanimate object?"

"Inanimate."

"Exactly. Now can any little boy tell me how, with this tin can, it is possible to generate, a surprising amount of speed and power almost beyond control?"

One little boy raised his hand.

"You may answer, Carter."

"Tie it to a dog's tail."

Discipline 100%

The junior partner had been on a visit to a distant branch office and was giving his father a full account.

"The manager there," he said, "is apt to take too much on himself. I made him understand that he must get authority from here instead of acting too much on his own."

The telegram ran: "Office on fire. Please wire instructions."

Speed Relativity

A tourist speeding along a highway at 100 miles an hour was stopped by a patrolman. "Was I driving too fast?" asked the tourist apologetically.

"Heck no," replied the patrolman. "You were flying too low."

ABS POWERS AND WEST ASIA

Three Nations Vie for Supremacy In West Asia

By TOMOHIDE NAITO
(From Contemporary Japan)

I

Long a zone of Anglo-Russian rivalry, West Asia is now witnessing a triangular contest for supremacy among America, Britain and the Soviet Union. Their seeming placability aside, it is patent enough that the ABS Powers are, with preconceived designs, vying with each other to streamline their respective holds over this region, firstly, because of its great strategic value and, secondly, because of its oil. Since the Czarist days from the time of Peter the Great, southward expansion has been a traditional policy of Russia to secure an outlet to the Mediterranean Sea. Historically speaking, however, Russia has all along favored not only a southward push, but also westward and eastward drives to insure her access to the Baltic Sea and the Pacific Ocean. Such an ambitious sea-centric national policy came to be nurtured with the primary object of facilitating her outward stride by obviating the geographical limitations offered by her land-locked position.

During the reign of the Czarina Catherine II, Russia launched a full-dress southward drive in addition to a westward and eastward advance by dispatching troops to Azerbaijan in Persia (now Iran) without giving any formal notice beforehand. And no sooner had the Russian penetration into Persia started than Britain, considering it a menace to her interests in India, endeavored her very best to checkmate it. Thus an Anglo-Russian rivalry in West Asia developed as a fait accompli. Russia entered Persia via the Tabriz trade route after crossing the Caucasus mountains including the towering Mount Elbruz. She had to infiltrate into Persia, for her obvious southward push—which ought to have been directed along the route to the Mediterranean Sea especially when all the major rivers in the country flow southward—could not be initiated due to the opposition encountered in the Balkans. For the same reason, too, she could not secure command over the sea route to the eastern Mediterranean via the Dardanelles.

Making a Bid for Supremacy

Inasmuch as certain foreign Powers particularly Britain, thwarted the Russian plan of simultaneous advance into the Middle East, West Asia and the Mediterranean, the Crimean War of 1853 and the Russo-Turkish Wars including that of 1877 occurred as inevitable consequences. Although Russia waged all these wars to render smooth her southward penetration, she could not achieve any success whatsoever. Nonetheless, the disappointment made her all the more determined to cherish the southward penetration objective as an invariable national policy. That is why when the Soviet Union was organized, following the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, the same objective naturally remained as an integral part of her foreign policy. Now that the situation has undergone drastic changes, the Soviet Union is going ahead in a resolute manner to consummate her long-standing Balkan and Baltic objectives. Concurrently, riding on the tide of opportunity, she is making an energetic bid for supremacy in the Middle East and West Asia as a means of promoting her southward advance policy on as durable a footing as possible. This accounts for the fact why she is exhibiting the utmost friendliness toward Turkey and why her relations with Iran are being adjusted realistically.

The present British policy toward Turkey, who has severed diplomatic relations with Germany, aims at realizing two objectives. One—Turkey's entrance into the European war on the side of the United Nations and two—not to allow the eventuation of a Soviet-Turkey entente cordiale. In other words, Britain desires that Turkey should orientate her foreign policy in tune with the British policy in respect of the Balkans and West Asia. A strong indication in this regard was given when on June 10, 1944, Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen, British Ambassador to Ankara in an interview with President Inonu not only protested against the alleged passage of several German transports through the Dardanelles Strait from the Black Sea late in May in contravention of the provisions of the Montreux Treaty, but handed a note from Prime Minister Churchill urging Turkey to discard her neutrality in favor of belligerency. It is said that the British Ambassador after handing the note proposed that, if Turkey decided to join the war, Britain would undertake to give her all possible assistance should she be confronted with a third Power pressure, implying the Soviet Union, but if not, Britain would consider the advisability of re-examining the Anglo-Turkish Treaty of Alliance. The British proposal, which was couched to serve as a veiled treat, led to the resignation of Foreign Minister Menemencioglu, and Premier Saracoglu was obliged to assume concurrently the Portfolio of Foreign Affairs. In the meantime, professors and university students belonging to the rightist bloc agitated for the widespread diffusion of Turanism, which has an important bearing on the people of Turkish extraction in the Soviet Union. The Turkish Government promptly discouraged the extension of the Turan movement on the ground that it was harmful to the nation, but took occasion to recall the friendliness shown by the Soviet Union at the initial stage of the formation of the Turkish Republic. At present, though Britain is making concentrated diplomatic efforts to perpetuate Anglo-Turkish unanimity, Ankara appears to be unwilling to irritate Moscow which, in turn, is doing all it can to bring to nought the unilateral British diplomatic move. The other noteworthy point is that the United States is manifesting an unusual keeness to rearrange her interests.

Upsets Anglo-U.S. Plans

The ascendancy of Soviet influence in Bulgaria and the Kremlin's latest ties with Rumania and Yugoslavia have upset the Anglo-American plans with regard to Balkan countries. While the Soviet Union has been offered a timely opportunity to execute her policy of southward advance with a view to reaching the Mediterranean shores, the Anglo-American nations have been hard put to keep her in check. Despite their endeavors, Bulgaria, Rumania and Yugoslavia have been practically won over by the Soviet Union—a Kremlin success which is pregnant with significant implications. On the other hand, Britain has penetrated into Greece to keep that country politically alienated from the Soviet Union. Even then, as the situation in the Balkans as a whole has decidedly turned in favor of the Soviet Union, it is within the range of possibilities that the question of the Dardanelles and Bosporus Straits may be settled in such a way as to fulfil her long-cherished desire. Because of this new Balkan situation, the ABS contest for supremacy in West Asia, has become accentuated.

In the latter part of 1941, Iran came under the joint control of Britain and the Soviet Union. At midnight of August 24, 1941, a contingent of the Red Army crossed into Tabriz from the Caucasus and another Red Army contingent landed at Astrabad on the Caspian Sea. This synchronized with the arrival of British forces in Iran from the west. Divided into three groups they entered Iranian territory from Kanikin on the border between Iraq and Iran, from Bergistan and from Bander-Shahpur, the southern terminus of the Trans-Iranian Railway. With the entry of the Red Army and the British forces, the political situation in Iran changed completely, and Britain and the Soviet Union individually began making attempts to control that country. But the rapid march of the Reich forces on the Eastern Front culminating in the epic battle of Stalingrad caused the Soviet Union to pay minor attention to Iran for the time being. And when the Soviet counterthrusts got under way yielding successful results, the Kremlin swung to action to strengthen its influence in Iran to the consternation of London. The intensity of the present Soviet influence in Iran can be judged from the fact that the Trans-Iranian Railway is virtually under Soviet control, and that the Soviet forces have advanced to the mouth of the Persian Gulf. Moreover, as most of the Soviet soldiers stationed are Moslems they are not being violently disliked by the Iranians who are also Moslems; whereas the presence of the British soldiers who are Christians is being resented by the Iranians. Of the thirty-two air bases in Iran, the Soviet Union tops the list by possessing eighteen, Britain twelve and America two. The possession of so many air bases in Iran has given the Soviet Union a voice in the conduct and disposal of affairs of West Asia. However, it must be noted that the Soviet Union possesses air bases only in Iran and not in other countries of West Asia, where the number of British air bases totals 103. America, except in Iran, possesses two air bases in Saudi Arabia and three in the Bahrein Islands and none in any other part of West Asia.

(To Be Continued)

Long, Long Ago

Three women were discussing their husbands.

"I have no secrets from my husband. Why even before we were married, I confessed all my faults to him."

Second woman: "Oh, my dear, I admire your courage."

Third Woman: "And I admire your memory."

Correct Location

A distinguished visitor to a lunatic asylum had the occasion to use the telephone, but experienced difficulty in getting his connection.

"Look here, girl," he shouted wildly to the exchange. "Do you know who I am?"

"No," came back the reply, "but I know where you are!"

Impatient

Angler——"you've been watching me for three hours. Why don't you try fishing yourself?"

Onlooker...."I haven't got the patience."